Working conditions in mines and factories for workers

1786. SHRI C. RAMA CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether major part of the Plan budget of the Ministry relates *inter-alia* to schemes for improving the working conditions in mines and factories to workers;

(b) if so, which schemes are under operation and how much outlay has been earmarked for the schemes during the last three years;

(c) whether the workers of the coal mines of Andhra Pradesh are benefited by the above schemes;

(d) if so, the details of assistance provided to them during the last three years; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENTS (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) A part of the Plan budget of the Ministry, under the plan schemes of Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS), Dhanbad and Directorate General Factory Advice Service and Labour Institutes (DGF ASLI), Mumbai, relates to improving the working conditions of workers in mines and factories.

(b) The names of the schemes being implemented by Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS), Dhanbad and Directorate General Factory Advice Service and Labour Institutes (DGFASLI), Mumbai along with their outlay earmarked during the last three years are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The workers of the coal mines throughout the country, including Andhra Pradesh, are benefited by the schemes which have been implemented by the DGMS, Dhanbad.

(d) and (e) Apart from the general coverage, four specific Workshops/Training programs were organised in the coal mine areas of M/s Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL) wherein more than 300 participants from Workmen, Supervisors, Safety Officers and Managers were trained on "Roof Bolting Technique and Practices".

Statement

The names of the schemes being implemented by DGMS and DGFASLI alongwith their outlay earmarked during the last three years

Plan Schemes of DGMS, Dhanbad

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Outlay		
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Study of Mine Accidents and Development of Mine Safety Information System (SOMA)	65.0	75.0	160.0

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Augmentation of S&T Capabilities, Mine Rescue Services and Human Resource Development (S&T)	100.0	125.0 (CW-20.0)	400.0 (CW-300.0)
3.	Strengthening of Machinery for Conduct of Statutory Examinations (SSEX)	75.0	75.0	75.0
4.	Improving Efficiency by providing Infrastructural Facilities in DGMS (PIF)	100.0	110.0 (CW-100.0)	155.0 (CW -150.0)
5.	Modernisation of Survey Capabilities in DGMS through Digitization of Mine Plans and Automated Survey System (MSC)	75.0	20.0	150.0*
6.	Modernisation of Information Database relating to Mines Management (MID)	75.0	50.0	
Plan Schemes of DGFASLI, Mumbai				
1.	Establishment of RLI at Faridabad	505.0 (CW-500.0)	400.0 (CW-395.0)	1000.0 (CW -800.0)
2.	Development of Safety and Health Information System and Data Bank	30.0	19.0	19.0
3.	Improvement and Strengthening of Enforcement and Implementation System for Safety and Health of Dock Workers in Major, Intermediate and Minor Ports	10.0	7.0	6.0
4.	Reorganisation and Strengthening of DGFASLI and Establishment of Special Cells	5.0	5.0	5.0
5.	Establishment of System of Chemical Safety and Monitoring of Occupational Health Status of Workers employed in Hazardous Industries	25.0	25.0	35.0

* The Plan Schemes 'MSC' and 'MID' were merged.

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Application of Ergonomics for Improvement of Working Conditions and Productivity in Factories, Docks and Small and Medium Enterprises	25.0	25.0	26.0

Suggestions by National Commission for Enterprises for unorganised sector

†1787. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Commission for Enterprises in unorganised sector has given certain suggestions to provide social security to the 34 crore labourers in unorganised sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such suggestions;

(c) whether any assessment has been made about the funds required to implement these suggestions; and

(d) if so, what is that amount and Government's reaction with regard to acceptance of these suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector (NCEUS), in its report, has recommended for national minimum social security benefits for unorganised sector workers which, *inter-alia*, include life and disability cover, health insurance, old age protection and any other scheme as deemed necessary.

(c) and (d) The proposal and suggestions of the NCEDS are being examined.

Increase in interest rate of EPF

†1788. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any step is being taken by Government to increase interest rate on Employees Provident Fund deposit for the year 2007-08;

(b) if so, the percentage of increase in the rate of interest;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when the meeting of C.B.T. (Central Board of Trustees) would be called for fixing the rate of interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The rate of interest on

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.